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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/924,770 | 08/09/2001 | Tadao Yamaguchi | 401338 | 4347 |

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

LAM, THANH

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/924,770

Applicant(s)

Tadao

Examiner

Thanh Lam

Art Unit

2834



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 3, 2002.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

6) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. Figure 8 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is not on a separate page. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: in pages 4 and 5, it contains improper phases such as "as discloses in claim 8", "with reference to claim1". Appropriate correction is required.
5. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamaguchi (pn. 5,942,833).

Yamaguchi discloses a disc-shaped eccentric rotor having at least one air-core coil (12a-c) and generating a difference in centrifugal forces by the rotation of the rotor, the rotor comprising: a flat commutator member having a central shaft insertion through hole (9); a plurality of commutator land segments located around the shaft insertion through hole on a first side of the flat commutator member; air-core coil end portion connection lands arranged circumferentially on a second side of the flat commutator member; a shaft holder installed around the shaft insertion through hole on the second side of the flat commutator member; and at least one wound air-core coil installed at the wound air-core coil arrangement guides and having end portions connected to the air-core coil end portion connection lands.

Regarding claim 2, Yamaguchi discloses including at least two air-core coils, wherein the air-core coils are radially arranged at an angular interval and at least one air-core coil is a printed wiring air-core coil.

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Regarding claim 3, Yamaguchi discloses the air-core coils comprise one printed wiring air-core coil and two wound air-core coils, and the air-core coils do not overlap one another.

Regarding claim 4, Yamaguchi discloses the air-core coils comprise two printed wiring air-core coils and one wound air-core coil, and the air-core coils do not overlap one another.

Regarding claim 5, Yamaguchi discloses including wound air-core coil arrangement guide apertures and reinforcement holes on the flat commutator member, wherein the reinforcement holes and the wound air-core coil arrangement guide apertures are respectively connected through grooves.

Regarding claim 6, Yamaguchi discloses the air-core coils comprise two printed wiring air-core coils and one wound air-core coil, the air-core coils do not overlap one another, and the shaft holder and the wound air-core coil arrangement guides are integral with the flat commutator member.

Regarding claim 7, Yamaguchi discloses a tungsten alloy eccentric weight within the wound air-core coil on the second side of the flat commutator member and adhered to the flat commutator member with a resin.

Regarding claim 8, Yamaguchi discloses at least one printed wiring coil is located at a position of the flat commutator member where the eccentric weight is located.

Regarding claim 9, Yamaguchi discloses A flat vibrator motor comprising: a disc-shaped eccentric rotor having at least one air-core coil and generating a difference in centrifugal forces by the rotation of the rotor, a shaft supporting the eccentric rotor; a magnet providing a magnetic

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field for the rotor via an axial gap between the magnet and the rotor, a brush inside the magnet providing electric power to the air-core coil through the flat commutator member, and a housing accommodating the rotor, the shaft, the magnet, and the brush.

Regarding claim 10, Yamaguchi discloses the shaft is fixed at a first side of the housing and including a member for preventing the eccentric rotor from moving in a radial direction installed at a second side of the housing.

Regarding claim 11, Yamaguchi discloses wound air-core coil arrangement guides outside the shaft insertion through hole on the second side of the flat commutator member.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (703) 308-7626. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3432.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0656.



Thanh Lam

Patent Examiner